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1960-08-29, Bette to Parents

Bette J. Barto

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Subject Terms

Women and the military, Women and war, United States -- Air Force, United States -- Army -- Air Forces, Photographs, Armed Forces -- Correspondence, Correspondence -- Vietnam War -- 1961-1975, Christmas

Summary

This collection contains 139 correspondence from Maj. Bette J. Barto, USAFE to her parents while serving as a nurse during the late 1950s and 1960s. Also included are three photographs, one special orders document, and one marriage license. In several cases, Bette refers to her parents as "Lizzie" and "Hugh Elmer," or simply "Elmer." Three letters from 1961 or 1962 are undated and placed in a separate folder.

Keywords

1960-08-29

Identifier

2017-219-w-r-_Barto_ColdWar_1960-08-29

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Monday Note
29 August 60
11:30
pm

Dear Mom and Daddy.

I just finished a long letter to Ray and I imagine you'll get a shorter one because that bed is beginning to beckon to me. Six o'clock comes pretty early. I had to write Ray tonight because I wanted to tell him all the stuff I had learned about what it would involve for us to get married over here in October in order to insure my getting assigned to Seymour. It would, now, like we can accomplish most of the paper work before Ray arrives; so he won't have to use all his leave time chasing down the legal angles. He would have to be married twice - once down in Tripoli by the Libyan Consulate and then again on base at the Chapel by a protestant Chaplain. I asked Ray if he thought he could take getting married twice in one day to me. He seems agreeable.

Don't get excited about it until I tell you to - we are just thinking now in order to insure our future. It may be more difficult than

it appears - 2 - to be at first
study. We have been burned in Air
Force Regulations governing overseas
marriages. We decided it would
be easier to marry and do it
for 2 of Officers to try it.

I got the fabulous table cloth
today. Mom, Mrs. Falsbury will
love it. I wrapped it real
pretty on white tissue paper
and tied pale green ribbon and
sent it to her at work tonight
by Anne - I'll hear how she
likes it tomorrow - but I know
already. She will be so surprised.
She's like you - never thinks
of anything for herself - just
does for someone else.

How much did that one and
more cost. I'll send you a
check - these things run into
money!

By the way, I'm confused.
What am I supposed to do with
the gold thread you sent me
with the beige for my cloth. I
thought it was solid beige -
did you not notice the gold
or have I goofed on my
cloth?

Mom, don't worry about the tiger
I asked for. I'm so eager to

-3-

mail Ray his very pretty new
saw, I can't wait. I can see
the tiger on later. So if you
haven't bought the giddle, don't
but if you have its fine 'cause
I'll need it soon anyway.

I hope Hersbie is better
when you read this. and I hope
Buddie doesn't go on suffering
too much longer -

Have Helen & Jody rented the
house yet? I hope so. That's
awful to have that worry at
the last moment.

By now, you know Ray's OK.
I got a letter telling me he had
just talked to you. He said
it made him feel better just
to hear you - didn't make me
seem so far away - It's a
good boy, Mom, and I think
you just about hug the moon -
but I knew you did, so there!

Hell, Elmer, you're about to have
a big birthday. I haven't mailed
your package - it's awfully hard
to get to the post office after
I get it wrapped - Love you,
it will come.

I'll quit now & write more later.
Love & both. Little